U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Claims

1. Claims 69, 71-73, 75 and 76 are pending.

Applicant's amendment filed April 27, 2006 is acknowledged, and applicants' response has been fully considered. Claims 77-80 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 69, 71-73, 75 and 76 are examined.

Withdrawn Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The previous rejection of claims 77-80 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, is withdrawn in view of applicant's cancellation of the claim, and applicant's response at page 4 in the amendment filed April 27, 2006.

Examiner's Amendment

An **Examiner's Amendment** to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Examiner's Amendment to the Specification:

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-amide" at page 26, Table 1, item (1) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-amide (SEQ ID NO:1)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly" at page 26, Table 1, item (2) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly (SEQ ID NO:2)"

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-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys" at page 26, Table 1, item (3) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys (SEQ ID NO:3)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg" at page 26, Table 1, item (4) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg (SEQ ID NO:4)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-OMe" at page 26, Table 1, item (5) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-OMe (SEQ ID NO:5)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-OMe" at page 26, Table 1, item (6) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-OMe (SEQ ID NO:6)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg-OMe" at page 26, Table 1, item (7) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg-OMe (SEQ ID NO:7)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-OEth" at page 26, Table 1, item (8) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-OEth (SEQ ID NO:8)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-OEth" at page 26, Table 1, item (9) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-OEth (SEQ ID NO:9)"

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-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg-OEth" at page 26, Table 1, item (10) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly-Leu-Met-Gly-Lys-Arg-OEth (SEQ ID NO:10)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro" at page 27, Table 1, item (11) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro (SEQ ID NO:11)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe" at page 27, Table 1, item (12) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe (SEQ ID NO:12)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly" at page 27, Table 1, item (13) with the term "Arg-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-Phe-Phe-Gly (SEQ ID NO:13)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Phe-Phe-Trp-Leu-Met-amide" at page 27, Table 1, item (14) with the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Phe-Phe-D-Trp-Leu-Met-amide (SEQ ID NO:14)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Phe-Phe-Trp-Leu-Met-Gly" at page 27, Table 1, item (15) with the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Phe-Phe-D-Trp-Leu-Met-Gly (SEQ ID NO:15)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Trp-Phe-Trp-Leu-Met-amide" at page 27, Table 1, item (16) with the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Trp-Phe-D-Trp-Leu-Met-amide (SEQ ID NO:16)"

-Please replace the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Trp-Phe-Trp-Leu-Met-Gly" at page 27, Table 1, item (17) with the term "Arg-D-Pro-Lys-Pro-Gln-Gln-D-Trp-Phe-D-Trp-Leu-Met-Gly (SEQ ID NO:17)"

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-Please replace the term "Arg-Pro-Cys-Pro-Gln-Cys-Phe-Tyr-Gly-Met-amide" at page 27, Table 1, item (18) with the term "Arg-Pro-Cys-Pro-Gln-Cys-Phe-Tyr-Gly-Pro-Met-amide (SEQ ID NO:18)"

The following is an **Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance**: The following references appear to be the closest art to the claimed invention. Foster *et al.* (USPN 5,989,545; WO 96/33273) teach an agent specific for nociceptive afferent neurons, where the agent comprises a targeting moiety (TM) coupled to a clostridial neurotoxin in which the Hc part of the heavy chain is removed or modified, and the targeting moiety can be nerve growth factor, TNF, endorphin, bradykinin, antibodies or other ligands binding to the receptors (e.g., conjugate of LH_N/A and NGF). However, the references do not teach an agent comprising a botulinum toxin H_N, a botulinum toxin L chain and no functional H_C domain, where the modified botulinum toxin is covalently coupled to substance P. Therefore, the claims are allowable over the art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Min Kam whose telephone number is (571) 272-0948. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathleen Kerr can be reached at 571-272-0931. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chih-Min Kam, Ph. D.

Primary Patent Examiner

Primary PATENT EXAMINER

CMK

June 29, 2006